2003-04 SESSION COMMITTEE HEARING RECORDS

Committee Name:

Senate Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long Term Care (SC-HCFALTC)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- > 03hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- > 03hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- > 03hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

- > <u>Appointments</u> ... Appt
- **>** **
- > Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule
- > **
- > Committee Hearings ... CH
- > **
- ► <u>Committee Reports</u> ... CR
- > **
- Executive Sessions ... ES
- > **
- ► <u>Hearing Records</u> ... HR
- > 03hr_sb0255_pt03
- Miscellaneous ... Misc
- > **
- Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP
- **>** **

Calean Keeting

Substitute Amendment to SB 255

Please make the following changes to the bill:

1. Provisional License – WITA Score 2:2

Mo Date

Amend page 4, lines 15 to 18 to indicate that a person has to be verified at a level 2 or higher in both transliterating and interpreting.

2. Educational Interpreters – Extra-Curricular Activities

Still mark to

Page 3, line 16. Clarify that educational interpreting includes all school-sponsored events.

Court Interpreter Clarification

Page 3, lines 12 and 13. Clarify that exemption only exists in court setting.

Please make the following additions to the bill:

1. Privileged Communications

Create language that would stipulate that communications facilitated by interpreters are considered privileged. Following is an example from the RID model legislation:

B. *Privileged Communication* - Communication between individuals who are deaf and hearing is owned by those individuals and therefore must be legally protected. The professional interpreter is simply facilitating the communication and cannot be held accountable for that information. The confidential communications between an interpreter and the consumers served are on the same basis as those between attorney/client; medical professional/patient or counselor/patient. As such, all legislation regulating the profession of interpreting must recognize this right of privileged communication between an interpreter and consumer, both deaf and hearing.

2. Deaf Consumer Opt-Out

Exempt from the provisions of the bill interpreters who are providing services for individuals who are deaf and who have signed a form indicating that they are aware of the law and are waiving the requirements and any liability. Interpreters and any 3rd party paying for services would also be required to sign form.

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3. Grandfather Clause for New Residents

Create another grandfather clause, allowing anyone that moves to the state with a RID or NAD certification but no education background be eligible for state licensure.

4. Deaf Interpreters

Create a separate license for deaf interpreters. A deaf interpreter is an individual who provides interpretive services and who a doctor or an audiologist has verified to be deaf or hard of hearing and has submitted an audiogram to DRL with their application. To qualify for a provisional license, the deaf interpreter would need 48 credits from a College, University, Technical College or another appropriate training program on issues related to interpreting. In addition, the deaf interpreter would need to pass the RID written exam, be an associate or student member of RID and complies with the continuing education requirements of the certification maintenance program, and have 8 hours of training on the role and function of a deaf interpreter and 8 hours of training on the RID Code of Ethics (documentation of dates, locations and duration of training would be required). A deaf interpreter is exempt from the WITA provisions. To qualify for a permanent license, in addition to the previous requirements the deaf interpreter would also have to have/RID certification.

Yes, has a cert. for def interpreturs.

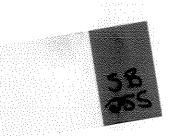
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Vote Record Passes and Long **Term Care**

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Be recommended for: Passage Adoption Introduction Rejection	☐ Confirmation		nce		
Committee Member Senator Carol Roessler Senator Ted Kanavas Senator Ronald Brown Senator Robert Welch Senator Dale Schultz Senator Judith Robson Senator Charles Chvala Senator Robert Jauch Senator Tim Carpenter				Absent	Not Voting
	Totals	5 :			

SB 255

Licensure of Interpreturs for the Deal + Hard & Hearing.



LRB 0299 Amendment to SB 255

LRB 0299

This amendment is supported by the Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

LRB 0299 addresses many of the concerns expressed at the public hearing.

LRB 0299 makes the following changes to the bill:

- Clarifies that the educational interpreting exemption includes all school-sponsored events.
- Clarifies that the court interpreter exemption only exists in a court setting.
- Under the provisional license provision of the bill, indicates that a person has to be verified at a level 2 or higher in both transliterating and interpreting on the W.I.T.A. assessment.
- Creates a deaf consumer opt-out provision, which allows deaf individuals the ability to waive the licensure requirements for an interpreter. This provision was established to address the concerns raised regarding religious interpreters and interpreters for various other activities such as cub scouts or swimming lessons.
- Creates another grandfather clause, allowing anyone that
 moves to the state with a RID or NAD certification but no
 education background be eligible for state licensure within
 two years of moving into state.

- Creates a separate license for deaf interpreters (interpreters who are deaf, and who are used to facilitate conversations between deaf individuals and other interpreters).
- Creates a privileged communication provision for interpreters.

2003 - 2004 LEGISLATURE

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LRB-1414/5 MDK:jld:jf

2003 SENATE BILL 255

September 23, 2003 – Introduced by Senators Kedzie, Stepp and Lassa, cosponsored by Representatives Lothian, Kerkman, Nass, Owens and Hines. Referred to Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT to create 440.032 and 440.08 (2) (a) 38j. of the statutes; relating to:

2 licensing interpreters for the deaf or hard of hearing, granting rule-making

authority, and providing a penalty.

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Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under this bill, a person may not, for compensation, provide interpretation services for the deaf or hard of hearing unless the Department of Regulation and Licensing (DRL) has granted a license to the person. However, this prohibition does not apply to interpreters who are certified by the Wisconsin Supreme Court to act as qualified interpreters in court proceedings. The prohibition also does not apply to a person licensed by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) as an educational interpreter for pupils who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The bill requires DRL to grant two different types of licenses. The first type of license may be renewed only twice by DRL after DRL initially grants the license. (Almost all professional and occupational licenses granted by DRL and boards in DRL must be renewed every two years under current law.) Under the bill, DRL must grant the first type of license to a person who pays a fee and provides evidence that he or she: 1) has an associate degree in interpretation for the deaf or hard of hearing or a certificate of completion of an education and training program regarding such interpretation; 2) is verified at specified levels in interpreting and transliterating in a program administered by DHFS; 3) has passed the written examination administered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (RID) and 4) is an associate or student member of the RID and complies with the continuing education

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3B 255

requirements of the RID's certification maintenance program. A person who is granted a license must notify DRL within 30 days if the person's membership in the RID is revoked or invalidated, and DRL must then revoke the license.

The second type of license must be renewed every two years by the license holder, and, unlike the first type of license, may continue to be renewed after the second renewal. DRL must grant the second type of license to a person who pays a fee and provides evidence that he or she has received an associate degree in interpretation for the deaf or hard of hearing or has received a certificate of completion of an education and training program regarding such interpretation. In addition, he or she must submit evidence that he or she has one of the following valid certifications: 1) any certification granted by the RID or its successor; 2) certification level 4 or 5 granted by the National Association of the Deaf or its successor; or 3) any certification granted by any other organization that DRL determines is substantially equivalent to one of the foregoing certifications. A person who is granted such a license must notify DRL within 30 days if the person's certification is revoked or invalidated, and DRL must then revoke the license.

Also, until approximately two years after the bill's effective date, DRL may grant the second type of license to a person who was granted one of the certifications described above before the bill's effective date, but who has not received an associate degree in interpretation for the deaf or hard of hearing or has not received a certificate of completion of an education and training program regarding such interpretation. A person who is granted such a license must renew it every two years, and may continue to renew it after the second renewal.

The bill requires DRL to promulgate rules that establish a code of ethics that governs the professional conduct of all licensees. In promulgating the rules, DRL must consider including part or all of the code of ethics established by the RID or its successor, and must periodically review that code, and, if appropriate, revise the rules to reflect any revisions to the code. In addition, DRL may take disciplinary action, including suspending or revoking a license, against a licensee who violates the bill's requirements, including the code of ethics. Any person who violates the bill's requirements, including a licensee, may be fined not more than \$200. imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime. the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do She chity and enact as follows:

Section 1. 440.032 of the statutes is created to read:

440.032 Interpreting for the deaf or hard of hearing. (1) Definition. In
this section, "Wisconsin interpreting and transliterating assessment" means a
program administered by the department of health and family services to determine
and verify the level of competence of communication access services providers who
are not certified by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., the National
Association of the Deaf, or other similar nationally recognized certification
organization.

- (2) LICENSE REQUIRED. (a) No person may, for compensation, provide interpretation services for the deaf or hard of hearing unless the person is licensed by the department under sub. (3).
 - (b) This subsection does not apply to any of the following:
- 1. An interpreter certified by the supreme court to act as a qualified interpreter in court proceedings under s. 885.38 (2).
- 2. A person licensed by the department of public instruction as an educational interpreter for pupils who are deaf or hard of hearing, if the person's interpretation services are limited to educational interpreting for pupils who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- (3) LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS. (a) The department shall grant a license as an interpreter for the deaf or hard of hearing to a person who submits an application on a form provided by the department, pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1), and submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the person has received an associate degree in interpretation for the deaf or hard of hearing or has received a certificate of completion of an education and training program regarding such interpretation, and the person has one of the following:

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1	1. Any valid certification granted by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf,
2	Inc., or its successor.
3	2. A valid certification level 4 or 5 granted by the National Association of the
4	Deaf or its successor.

- 3. Any valid certification granted by any other organization that the department determines is substantially equivalent to a certification specified in subd. 1. or 2.
- (b) 1. The department shall grant a license as an interpreter for the deaf or hard of hearing to a person who submits an application on a form provided by the department, pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1), and submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the person satisfies all of the following:
- a. The person has received an associate degree in interpretation for the deaf or hard of hearing or has received a certificate of completion of an education and training program regarding such interpretation.
- b. The person is verified by the Wisconsin interpreting and transliterating assessment as follows: if the person is verified as level 1 in interpreting, the person is verified as level 2 or higher in transliterating; and if the person is verified as level 1 in transliterating, the person is verified as level 2 or higher in interpreting.
- c. The person has passed the written examination administered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.
- d. The person is an associate or student member of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., and complies with the continuing education requirements of the certification maintenance program of the registry.
- 2. A license granted under subd. 1. may be renewed twice and is not valid upon the expiration of the 2nd renewal period.

(4) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED. A person who is licensed under sub. (3) shall notify
the department in writing within 30 days if person's certification specified in sub. (3)
(a) or membership specified in sub. (3) (b) 1. d. is revoked or invalidated. The
department shall revoke a license granted under sub. (3) if such a certification or
membership is revoked or invalidated.

- (5) LICENSE RENEWAL. The renewal dates for licenses granted under sub. (3) are specified in s. 440.08 (2) (a). Renewal applications shall be submitted to the department on a form provided by the department and shall include the renewal fee specified in s. 440.08 (2) (a) and evidence satisfactory to the department that the person's certification specified in sub. (3) (a) or membership specified in sub. (3) (b) 1. d. has not been revoked or invalidated.
- **(6)** Rule Making. (a) The department may not promulgate rules that impose requirements for granting a license that are in addition to the requirements specified in sub. (3).
- (b) The department shall promulgate rules that establish a code of ethics that governs the professional conduct of persons licensed under sub. (3). In promulgating rules under this paragraph, the department shall consider including as part or all of the rules part or all of the code of ethics established by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor. The department shall periodically review the code of ethics established by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, and, if appropriate, revise the rules promulgated under this paragraph to reflect revisions to that code of ethics.
- (7) DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AND ACTIONS. Subject to the rules promulgated under s. 440.03 (1), the department may make investigations and conduct hearings to determine whether a violation of this section or any rule promulgated under this

section has occurred and may reprimand a person who is licensed under sub. (3) or
may deny, limit, suspend, or revoke a license granted under sub. (3) if it finds that
the applicant or licensee has violated this section or any rule promulgated under this
section.

- **(8)** Penalty. A person who violates this section or any rule promulgated under this section may be fined not more than \$200 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both.
 - **SECTION 2.** 440.08 (2) (a) 38j. of the statutes is created to read:
- 440.08 **(2)** (a) 38j. Interpreter for the deaf or hard of hearing: September 1 of each odd–numbered year; \$53.

SECTION 3. Nonstatutory provisions.

- (1) WAIVER OF CERTAIN LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS.
- (a) Notwithstanding section 440.032 (3) (a) of the statutes, as created by this act, the department of regulation and licensing shall grant a license as an interpreter for the deaf and hard of hearing to a person who, not later than the first day of the 24th month beginning after the effective date of this paragraph, pays the fee specified in section 440.05 (1) of the statutes and submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the person has any of the following:
- 1. Any valid certification that was granted by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, before the effective date of this subdivision.
- 2. A valid certification level 4 or 5 granted by the National Association of the Deaf or its successor before the effective date of this subdivision.
- 3. Any valid certification that was granted by another organization before the effective date of this subdivision, if the department determines that the other

8	(END)
7	publication.
6	(1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 7th month beginning after
5	Section 4. Effective date.
4	section 440.032 (3) (a) of the statutes, as created by this act.
3	(b) A license granted under paragraph (a) is considered to be granted under
2	2.
1	certification is substantially similar to a certification specified in subdivision 1. or

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